

From: Steve Schmidt
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 12:17am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

[I read in the San Jose Mercury that I could send public comments about the antitrust trial to this address.]

There are those that believe Windows to be a wonderful product, and that Microsoft has not diminished competition thru their monopolistic actions. Those people have not seen the incredible advances of software products in other industries during the past 20 years, most notably in the areas of stability and security, where Windows is so weak.

In many ways Microsoft is to the software industry as the US is to global politics: the 800-pound gorilla with incredible resources.

While US leadership (and our democratic process) usually recognizes that abusing this position has long-term negative repercussions with foreign states, Microsoft leadership takes full advantage of their position to vanquish companies with competitive (and sometimes superior) products.

This must not be allowed to continue, and I believe the only way to prevent it is to (1) enforce a change in leadership at Microsoft, or (2) to split the OS division out of the rest of the company.

-Steve Schmidt
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